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Circular 7c

The Effects of Not Replying Within 120 Days to Copyright Office Correspondence

IN THE EVENT YOU DO NOT REPLY WITHIN 120 DAYS

- The case file will be closed without further notification.
- Any published deposit you submitted may be made available to the Library of Congress for use or disposition under the provisions of the copyright law, 17 U.S.C. §§407, 704.
- Any unpublished deposit or document you submitted will be returned.
- **Your filing fee will not be returned.**

THE CONSEQUENCES OF A CLOSED FILE

- If we close a file and you later re-apply for registration or recordation, **you will be required to submit a new application, deposit, and fee or original document and fee.**
- Renewal registration may no longer be possible.
- The effective date of registration will be based on the new, later submission.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF REGISTRATION

Though registration is not a condition for securing copyright, delaying the effective date of registration can have serious consequences. In an infringement suit, the court may not award statutory damages or attorney's fees if the infringement started before the effective date of registration —unless, for published works, registration was made within a grace period of 3 months following publication and the infringement started after first publication.

RECORDATION OF TRANSFERS OR DOCUMENTS

Also, while the recordation of a transfer or document pertaining to a copyright is not mandatory, it does constitute constructive notice of ownership of rights, if the statutory time limits and conditions are satisfied.

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LC 3.4/2:

Copyright Office • Library of Congress • Washington, D.C. 20559

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